

VIEW OF FOREIGN OFFICE ON CHINA'S APPEAL TO THE
LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

1. As Japan, not being a member of the League of Nations, has maintained a policy of non-cooperation with the League on political matters, she is not in a position to have any concern with arguments made in the League meetings, even though China has made an appeal to the League.

2. As we have not yet received complete texts of the Chinese statement and appeal to the League, we wish to refrain from making any expression of our definite opinion. But even the parts of these texts already known show considerable distortions of facts. That it will only aggravate the situation and bring results contrary to its own expectations if the League, not clearly recognizing the actual situation in East Asia, will interfere with the Sino-Japanese affairs on the basis of documents propagated unilaterally by China, is fully demonstrated by the experience during the Manchurian Incident.

The Chinese distortion of facts may be seen, for instance, in the following case:

The Chinese claim that the Japanese attacked non-combatants^h but the Japanese forces have never carried on hostilities with non-combatants as objectives. It was the Chinese forces them-

selves

selves which ordered all foreigners, except Japanese, in Honkew to leave that district and then attacked Japanese non-combatants remaining there. The bombing of the French Concession and the International Settlement in Shanghai as a result of which many foreign non-combatants were killed or wounded was perpetrated by the Chinese, as you all remember.

No consideration is given by the Chinese army to educational and cultural establishment. They occupy these establishments as bases of hostilities. When this is done, these establishments lose, of course, their neutral status according to international law. The objectives of Japanese attack are always combatants and military establishments.

The Chinese allege that Japan is destroying the political structure of China and interfering with her unification, but such charges are far from the intention of Japan.

Japan is desirous that China be unified--a pre-requisite to the establishment of a structure for world peace. But that unification must be brought about in a sound way.

3. The policy of the Japanese Government vis-a-vis the present China Affair aims at bringing about China's reconsideration and the abandonment of her mistaken policy of anti-Japanism, and a fundamental adjustment of Sino-Japanese relations

Upon

Ref Doc No. 1116

Upon the outbreak of the affair, the Japanese Government, in accordance with their policy of local settlement and non-aggravation, did everything to arrive at a speedy settlement. But the Nanking Government manifested no sincerity. They moved division after division of their Central Army north to challenge Japan, while at Hankow and other points in the Yangtze Valley, Japanese subjects engaged in peaceful pursuit of business were menaced by Nanking's vicious anti-Japanese propaganda--their very existence being jeopardized. That Japan should have taken action to compel such a Government to reconsider their policy is certainly justified from the standpoint of justice and humanity, as well as of self-defense. I am convinced, however, that for the solution of the Sino-Japanese problems, Japan and China will finally succeed in discovering the means suited to the reality of the situation.

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru Chief of the Archives Section Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached in English consisting of 3 pages and entitled "view of Foreign Office on China's appeal to the League of Nations." is an exact and true copy of an official document of the Japanese Foreign Office

Certified at Tokyo,
on this 8th day of April 1947.

/S/ K. Hayashi
Signature of Official

Witness: /S/ K. Urabe

四二、支那ノ政治問題ニ對スル外務當局ノ見解

(昭和十二年九月十五日午前十時)

一、日本ハ非戦國體ヲ政治問題ニ付テハ預見ト協力シナイ如何ヲ探ツテ來
テキルカラ支那事務カ進展ニ提議サレタトコロ預見ニ於ケル困難ニ關
與スヘキ立場ニナイ

二、支那ノ「ステートメント」及提言文ハ衆多全文ヲ入手シナイカラ今以
ニ正確ナ意見ヲ發表スルコトハ難推ヤルカ今迄判明シテキルトコロニ
支ケテモ國分事實ヲ呼ケテ日本ヲ誣ヒテキル點點カ東亞ノ事態ヲ明ニ
認識セシ支那ノ一方由宣傳文書ヲ禁絶ニ日支問題ニ介入スルカ如キハ
却テ問題ヲ惡化シ預見ノ所期ニ反スル結果ヲ招來スルノミナルコトハ
既ニ滿洲事變ニ依リ尤分ニ實證サレタトコロタ

支那側ハ例ヘハ非戦國體ニ對スル日本軍ノ攻撃ヲ云々シテ盾ルカ日本
軍ハ非戦國體ヲ目標トシテ攻撃ヲ加ヘタ様ナコトハ絶對ニナイシ、又
今後モアリ得ナイトコロテアル、支那軍コソ虹口方面ノ外國人ニ退去

ヲ要請シ日本帝國員ノミヲ曰トシテ日本國民タケラ其仁義シテ
 計イテ他國ヲ加ヘ、之ハ國ニ支那側ノ暴虐タルノミナラス又八月
 十四日 國境及共同租界空ニ如キ若ハ其後ノ「フーバー」に
 ノ如キニ依リ外人非難員多岐ニ死傷者ヲ伯シタ有テアル
 教育文化機關力攻撃ノ目的物タルカ如キモ支那軍ニ於テ之ヲ占領シ
 、國ノ藩衛ト爲シタル場合ニ國際法上當然ニ其不可侵性ヲ喪失ス
 ルコトニ成ルコトハ早ス迄モナシ日本ハ帝國員並敵性ヲ有スル人物
 ノミニ顧問有爲ノ目標ヲ置クモ、テアルコトハ勿テアルハ日本ハ又
 支那ノ政治機構ヲ破壞シ支那ノ統一ヲ妨害セントスルモノナリト斷言
 シテ居ルカハ日本ノ真意ヲ解セサルコト我シヤモノテアル
 日本ハ世界ノ平和機構建立ノ前途トシテノ支那ノ統一ヲ希望スルモノ
 テアルカ唯此統一カ正シイカニヨリ成就サルヘキモノテアルトノ信念
 ヲ有スルモノテアル

三、今次事變ニ對スル帝國ノ方針ハ、迄支那政府ノ反省ヲ求メ誤レルハ
 日歐衝突の點ニ對シテ以テ日支兩國ノ國交ヲ根本的ニ調整セントスルニ

アル

今次事變勃發スルヤ帝國政府ハ迅速解決、事態不擴大ノ方針ニ定イテ時局収容ニ渾身努力ヲシタコトハ世界ノ均シク承認スル所ナアル、然ルニ滿京政府ハ毫モ諒意ヲ示サズ益々中央軍ヲ北支ニ集中シテ殺戮ヲ執戦シ來ツタト同時ニ楊子江流域及蘇豫ノ各地ニ於テハ險惡極ル勢日ヲ行ツテ我在留民ノ平和的活動ヲ制シ其生存ヲ危殆ナラシメタ。帝國力辯ノ如キ國家ニ對シ其反省ヲ求ムル行爲ニ出テタコトハ帝國ノ正義ヲ入道ノ爲又自衛ノ爲懸テ當仁ノコトデアル、日支間ニ付テハ日支兩國間ニ於テノミ事實ニ即シタ最も公正な解決方法カ發見サレルモノト相信スル

文書ノ目所並ニ成立ニ因スル證明書

(三)

自分林馨ハ外務省文書課長ノ職ニ居ル者ナル處、茲ニ添付セラレタル日本
ニ依ツテ書カレタ頁ヨリ成ル文書ノ印字機番ニ對スル外務省凡ノ見解(、
昭和十二年九月十五日一ト題スル書類ハ日本政府(外務省一ノ保管ニ係ル
公文書ノ正確ニシテ真實ナル當シナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年四月八日

於東京

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右署名捺印ハ自分ノ面前ニ於テ爲サレタリ

同日於同所

立會人 浦 部 勝 馬

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